

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6824

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 0940

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP, TH

SUBJECT: CODEL ADDABBO

REF: BANGKOK 0254

SUMMARY: CODEL ADDABBO FOLLOWED SCHEDULE IN THAILAND AS OUTLINED IN REFERENCE EXCEPT FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI WAS NOT AVAILABLE FOR 11:00 A.. JANUARY 8, 1976 MEETING. WHEN CODEL, ESCORTED BY AMBASSADOR, ARRIVED AT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THEY FOUND THAT MINUTES EARLIER CHATCHAI HAD BEEN SUMMONED TO GOVERNMENT HOUSE TO DISCUSS POLITICAL CRISIS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS SENIOR STAFF. IN ORDER TO MEET CODEL CHATCHAI HOSTED A WORKING BREAKFAST FOR CODEL AT HIS RESIDENCE 8:00 A.M., JANUARY 10, 1976 PRIOR TO CODEL'S DEPARTURE (SEPTEL). END SUMMARY.

1. CODEL'S FIRST ACTIVITY IN THAILAND WAS BREAKFAST WITH THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN THAILAND ON JANUARY 8. CODEL THEN CAME TO EMBASSY FOR COUNTRY TEAM MEETING CHAIRED BY AMBASSADOR. FOLLOWING IS THE GENERAL OUTLINE FOLLOWED AT THE MEETING: THAI FOREIGN RELATIONS; THAI/U.S. RELATIONS; RESIDUAL FORCE AND POINTS FOREIGN MINISTER MAY RAISE; THAI DOMESTIC AFFAIRS INCLUDING POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, INSURGENTS, REFUGEES AND NARCOTICS.

2. THE FOLLOWING AREAS WERE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THE CODEL AND WERE THE SUBJECT OF MOST OF THEIR QUESTIONS: THE

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CHINA ROAD NETWORK IN LAOS; THAI INSURGENCY--POLITICAL OR

MILITARY?: WILL HANOI OVERTLY MOVE MILITARILY AGAINST THAILAND AFTER THEY DIGEST INDOCHINA?; WILL THE UPPER CLASS THAI DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE INSURGENCY?; CORRUPTION IN THAILAND; PRC VERSUS USSR INFLUENCE IN CAMBODIA; REFUGEES; "THE CHICKEN AND PIG MONEY" OF DEA'S PROGRAM; HOW EFFECTIVE IS DEA'S EFFORT IN SEA?; FUTURE U.S. RESIDUAL PRESENCE BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN; REDUCTION IN U.S. FOREIGN AID VERSUS U.S. RELATIONS WITH THE RTG; THE PEACE CORPS; U.S. RESIDUAL INTELLIGENCE INSTALLATIONS IN THAILAND AND THE RTG DOMESTIC POLITICAL PROBLEMS. CODEL SEEMED PLEASED WITH FULL AND DETAILED DISCUSSIONS.

3. THE EVENING OF JANUARY 8, ACTING SPECIAL ASSISTANT RICHARD DOREY HOSTED A DINNER INCLUDING ATTENDANCE AT A THAI CULTURAL PERFORMANCE FOR CODEL.

4. ON JANUARY 9, CONGRESSMEN ADDABBO, EDWARDS AND ROBINSON, PLUS PRESTON, SNODGRASS AND CARY, ALONG WITH JOHN GOLDSMITH, STAFF MEMBER SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE (WHO ARRIVED IN BANGKOK THE EVENING OF JANUARY 8), VISITED UDORN AND RAMASUN STATION. DOREY AND DOD/SRT JOHN PLATTER ACCOMPANIED THEM. GROUP WAS BRIEFED IN DETAIL ON RAMASUN AND HAD A TOUR OF THE STATION. CODEL MEMBERS WERE MOST INTERESTED AND SEEMED FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH THE STATION'S OPERATION.

5. THOSE MEMBERS WHO STAYED IN BANGKOK JANUARY 9 DID THE FOLLOWING: REPRESENTATIVE MYERS PLUS STAFF MEMBERS MURPHY, SMITH AND SEYMOUR ATTENDED A MACTHAI BRIEFING. REPRESENTATIVE SLACK, REPRESENTATIVE SMITH AND MR. HOWE TOURED THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATION LIBRARY AND LANGUAGE TEACHING FACILITY. JAMES MCGINLEY, DIRECTOR OF USIS, HOSTED A LUNCHEON FOR THE GROUP THAT REMAINED IN BANGKOK.

6. THE EVENING OF JANUARY 9, THE AMBASSADOR HOSTED A DINNER FOR CODEL AND MEMBERS OF THE MISSION AT HIS RESIDENCE.

7. ON JANUARY 10 FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI HOSTED A BREAKFAST AT HIS RESIDENCE FOR CODEL PLUS AMBASSADOR, DCM AND CONTROL OFFICER. AFTER BREAKFAST, CODEL DEPARTED FOR AIRPORT.

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9. TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, CODEL WAS PLEASED WITH PROGRAM AND INFORMATION THEY RECEIVED IN THAILAND. WHITEHOUSE

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